

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendment, the claims 1 and 4-15 will have been canceled and claims 21 and 24 will have been amended. Accordingly, claims 16-18 and 21-29 will be pending. Reconsideration of the Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

***Present Amendment is proper for entry***

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendment is proper for entry after final rejection. Applicants note that, inasmuch as the only remaining pending claims are claims 16-18 and 21-29 which have been indicated to be allowed, no question of new matter is presented nor are any new issues raised in entering the instant amendment of the claims and that no new search or further consideration would be required. Also, no net additional claims have been added. Moreover, Applicants submit that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner to enter the instant amendment, consider the merits of the same, and indicate the allowability of the present application and each of the pending claims.

***Allowed Claims***

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 16-18 and 21-29 are allowed. As

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the only pending claims are claims which have been indicated to be allowed, Applicants request that the instant application be allowed to pass to issuance.

***Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

Applicants submit that the rejections of claims 1 and 4-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,372,590 to NAYAK is moot.

By this Amendment, the above-noted claims have been canceled so that the claims which are indicated to be allowed can proceed to issue.

Applicants, however, reiterate that the instant rejections are improper at least for the reasons already made of record.

Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the above-noted claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

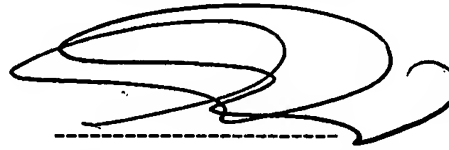
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious the Applicants' invention, as recited in each of the pending claims. The applied references of record have been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out. Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have

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been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto. Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate. Authorization is hereby given to refund excess payments and charge any additional fee necessary to have this paper entered to Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dureseti CHIDAMBARRAO, et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew M. Calderon', written over a horizontal dashed line.

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November 11, 2005  
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